



Response to Office Action
July 14, 2003
Ser. No. 10/068,154
Attorney Ref. No.: 109.06
Page 2

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the first paragraph (page 1, line 5) of the specification to read:

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This is a divisional application from U.S. patent application No. 09/834,390, filed April 13, 2001 (now abandoned), which in turn claims priority from provisional U.S. patent application No. 60/226,471 filed August 18, 2000. The present patent claims priority from both these related applications.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 17 to read:

al
Figures 5, 6, 7, and 8 show one embodiment of a fuel cell 40 according to the present invention, and Figures 5A, 5B and 5C show another embodiment 50. These figures show single thin metal plate BSPs 48, 58 onto which the MEAs 46, 56 and reactant manifolds 41, 51A, and 51B are assembled into modular units 40, 50 prior to being incorporated into complete fuel cell units (stacks) 49, 59. The BSPs 48, 58 may contain a reactant flow pattern, and the MEAs 46, 56 may or may not have an incorporated diffusion layer, as well as separate diffusion layers if needed. The modules also may have an adhesive or an adhesive backed gasket or seal 55, reactant manifolds 41, 51A and 51B, and manifold seals or adhesives 46b, 56b. Other features depicted in these figures include tie rod holes 52, reactant passageway 43, 53, edge seal 54, inactive border 55 and active MEA 56.



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Page 3

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Amendments to the Drawings:

In response to the Examiner's comment, the applicant has revised Fig. 5C, correcting a numbering error in the original drawings. More particularly, the edge seal is now correctly numbered as 54.

Additionally, the applicant has noticed and corrected another numbering error. Thus, in Figs. 5 and 8, the manifold seal or adhesive is now correctly depicted with reference number 46b rather than 46.

Pursuant to the USPTO notice dated February 13, 2003, the applicant has submitted the "immediate prior version" of each corrected sheet along with the corrected sheets.